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Published to advance the Science of cold-blooded vertebrates

MEASUREMENTS OF A MALE AND FEMALE SPECIMEN OF THE SEVEN-GILLED SHARK, *HEPTRANCHIAS PERLO*.

Comparisons between male and female sharks of one species are sometimes made, but it is very seldom that actual measurements are given that would allow of a detailed comparison in bodily proportions between the two sexes. The following measurements of male and female specimens of a rather rare species may be of interest. It would be well if some of our younger ichthyologists, who devote attention to the local faunas here and there, would record similar sets of measurements for some of our common species.

Heptranchias perlo, on account of having seven gills, is generally regarded as an ancient or archaic type of shark. It is the only species of its genus. It has a wide range (Atlantic, Mediterranean, Japan), although specimens of it are rather rare. The two here recorded are from Japan, and were both taken

in one season. They are in the collections of the American Museum:

| | THOUSANDTHS OF LENGTH. | | | |
|---|------------------------|--------|-------|--------|
| | MALE | FEMALE | MALE | FEMALE |
| Total length (including caudal) | 98.0 | 95.0 | 1.000 | 1.000 |
| | cm. | cm. | | |
| Head (measured to first gill opening) | 15.5 | 15.5 | .158 | .163 |
| Snout | 4.7 | 4.8 | .048 | .051 |
| Eye (horizontal diam.) .. | 3.7 | 3.4 | .038 | .036 |
| Interorbital space | 6.5 | 6.2 | .066 | .065 |
| Length of gill area | 3.5 | 3.6 | .036 | .038 |
| Length to origin of dorsal | 49.0 | 44.0 | .500 | .463 |
| Base of dorsal | 6.0 | 6.4 | .061 | .067 |
| Length of caudal (measured from origin of lower lobe) | 31.0 | 30.0 | .316 | .316 |
| Base of anal | 5.6 | 5.4 | .057 | .057 |
| “ “ pectoral | 5.1 | 5.7 | .052 | .060 |
| “ “ ventral | 7.0 | 7.3 | .071 | .077 |

From this table, especially columns 3 and 4, it appears that in this species the male and female are remarkably similar in all bodily proportions.

L. HUSSAKOF,
New York City.

THE SNAKES OF MONROE AND ORLEANS COUNTY, N. Y.

1. *Diadophis punctatus* (Linn.) Ring-necked Snake. April 15-October 15. Like the red-bellied snake, it is seldom observed in this region because of its nocturnal habits.

2. *Liopeltis vernalis* (Harlan) "Grass Snake," "Green Snake." April 10-October 20. We have taken this form mainly in the sphagnum bogs of the two counties, the last record being at Westbury, N. Y., June 1, 1918. It is frequently observed at Bergen Swamp, N. Y.